

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

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PE 04/04

March 12, 2004

TO: ALL COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: TEAM SEED 2004 Seed Inspection Workshops

TEAM SEED is currently making preparations for its seed inspection workshops for 2004. The workshops will be presented by personnel from Seed Services, State Seed Laboratory, California Crop Improvement Association, and Seed Biotechnology Center.

Originally designed to reinforce the basics of seed inspection and to cover important areas of the California Seed Law, the training will enable county personnel to properly carry out seed inspection activities in accordance with the program contract. The workshop will cover: labeling requirements, proper sampling techniques, Stop-Sale procedures, the importance of appropriate documentation, what happens to a sample when it reaches the seed laboratory, and seed complaint procedures. The training will also cover sampling of seed shipments and quarantine procedures. Additionally, California Crop Improvement Association will cover seed certification procedures at each workshop. Select workshops will feature personnel from the Seed Biotechnology Center to provide information on advances in biotechnology impacting seed. As this workshop is open to the seed industry, it provides a chance for interaction between county, state, and industry personnel, as well as a better understanding of each other's duties and responsibilities.

With seven sessions planned for the spring of 2004, we hope you can join us at the one held in your area. The sessions will be four to five hours long and will allow time for travel to and from a central training site. The sessions will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will conclude by 3:30 p.m. Dates and locations are as follows:

1- March 30	Woodland	Yolo County Farm Bureau	69 West Kentucky Avenue
2 April 13	Hanford	Kings County Department of Agriculture	680 North Campus Drive
3 - April 14	Modesto	Stanislaus County Department of Agriculture	3800 Cornucopia Way
4 - April 20	Red Bluff	Tehama County Department of Agriculture	1760 Walnut Street
5 - April 27	El Centro	AB & C Conference Room	940 West Main Street
6 - April 28	San Marcos	San Diego County Department of Agriculture	1645 Capalina Road, Suite 600

Please mark your calendar and make arrangements for you, or your staff, to attend. We are looking forward to your participation and a great workshop. To help us plan, please R.S.V.P. your choice of sessions to attend. Additional information (i.e. facility location, maps) for each session can be faxed to you upon request.

If you have any questions regarding the schedule, or to send in your R.S.V.P., please contact Shannon Tannoia, the workshop coordinator, at (916) 654-0493 (ext. 3607), or via E-mail at stannoi@cdfa.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

David Godfrey
Senior Agricultural Biologist
Nursery, Seed and Cotton Program
Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services

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